

Subj each of the on-off devices being of the type selected from the group including a 2-type on-off device having a two-port valve, a 2-3-type on-off device having a two-port valve and a three-port valve, a 2-3-3-type on-off device having a two-port valve and two three-port valves, a 3-3-type on-off device having two three-port valves, and a 3-3-3-type on-off device having three three-port valves,

B1 main bodies of two-port valves of all types of on-off devices being identical in configuration and each having an inlet port and an outlet port in a bottom face thereof, and main bodies of three-port valves of all types of on-off devices being identical in configuration and each being formed in a bottom face thereof with an inlet port, an outlet port always in communication with the inlet port, and an inlet-outlet subopening having a port separate from said inlet port and said outlet port;

each port of said two-port valves and said three-port valves being arranged in a row along said each line; and

valve mounts mounting said valve main bodies including joint members containing internal passages communicating with ports of said valves and operatively connecting said valves and said fluid controllers in selected fluid flow relation.

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 6 are in the application and stand finally rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over Applicants' Prior Art (A.P.A) as represented by the apparatus disclosed in Figs.8 and 9 of the instant patent application, considered in view of DuRoss et al. and Brzezicki et al.

It is respectfully submitted, initially, that the making of the instant Office Action a FINAL action by the Examiner is improper as contravening the provisions of §707.07(b) M.P.E.P. Section 707.07(b) M.P.E.P. expressly provides that, ".....it would not be proper to make final a first Office